

JOHN OSWALD
Speaking of Music
with Charles Amirkhanian

PLUNDERPHONICS
OCTOBER 11, 1990 8:00PM
The Exploratorium, McBean Theater
San Francisco

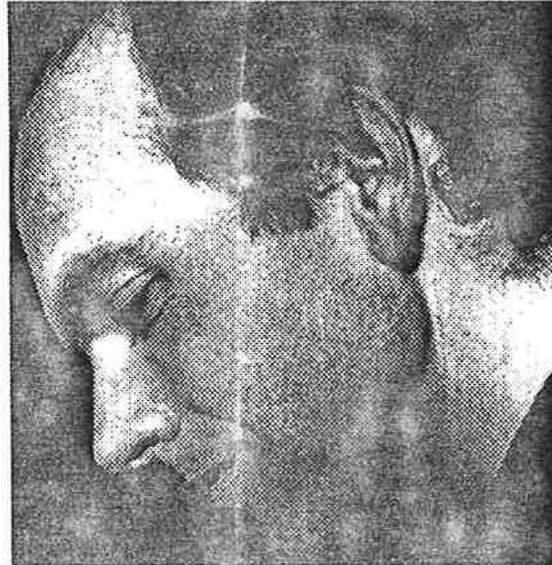
Tonight's guest is one of the most inveterate proponents of the work ethic in tape manipulation and computer sampling of found materials. The painstaking care with which he constructs his compositions is evident even to the casual listener. And from his early works in which, for example, Richard Nixon was heard to say definitively, "I am a crook," John Oswald has maintained a stance as artist provocateur which is unrivaled in the world of music and audio art.

His present work falls into two categories: mystery tapes and plunderphonics. The latter presents recognizable found sound imagery in dynamically altered contexts. The former uses more obscure material in the same way, creating soundscapes of bizarre character which are fascinating on repeated hearings.

On tonight's program Mr. Oswald presents excerpts from his forthcoming Nonesuch Records release Plunderphonic Rubaiyat, discusses his recent brush with the law in Canada over his freely-distributed, non-commercial CD "Plunderphonic," and plays us examples of his newest work using sounds of fire and bells.

Tonight's program is being recorded for delayed radio transmission over KPFA FM/94. The next broadcast in the series, produced for radio by Ed Herrmann, will be aired on Monday, October 29, 1990, 9:00-11:15am and will feature Peter Garland. The following two programs in this series are to be heard on November 26 (G. S. Sachdev) and December 17 (John Oswald), both at 9:00am. For a free sample Folio guide to all KPFA broadcasts, call (415) 848-6767.

With human perception as its central theme, the Exploratorium has always used the insights of both scientists and artists to establish notions of how one sees, knows and understands the world. The Exploratorium's Speaking of Music series, begun in 1972, is one of many programs here that seeks to



discover why things are the way they are: how the artist, like the scientist, probes, investigates, interprets nature, and makes decisions.

As with everything else at the Exploratorium, participation is the key, so we encourage you to ask questions of our guests. Now in its seventeenth year, Speaking of Music has presented such composers as Keith Jarrett, Elliott Carter, Laurie Anderson, Pierre Boulez, Pauline Oliveros, Frank Zappa, Conlon Nancarrow, Henry Kaiser, Leo Ornstein, and Janice Giteck.

The Speaking of Music series has been hosted and programmed by composer Charles Amirkhanian since 1983. Amirkhanian is Music Director of the Pacifica Foundation's listener-sponsored flagship station, KPFA-FM in Berkeley. He also is Co-Director of the Telluride Institute's Composer-to-Composer summit conference held annually in the mountains of Southwestern Colorado. This year's event runs from July 12-14, 1991. For information call (303) 728-4402. In 1989, ASCAP honored Amirkhanian with its annual Deems Taylor Award for service to American composers through his creative programming at KPFA.

Each event in the Speaking of Music series is recorded for broadcast over KPFA/94.1FM. When addressing your questions from the audience, please speak up so that your remarks will be audible to our radio audience. Broadcasts occur on the final Monday of each month at 9:00am and are produced by composer and engineer Ed Herrmann, assisted by Tony Ferro.

Speaking of Music is made possible with the generous support of the California Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Grants for the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund. Also, MEET THE COMPOSER/California, with support from Meet the Composer, Inc., the California Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Whitelight Foundation (Mrs. Betty Freeman), and ARTS, Inc.